

First Epistle of John

Prologue 1.1-4

"... so that you too may have fellowship with us ... that our joy may be made complete."

I. The message introduced 1.5–2.27

"the one who says ..."

A. Introduction 1.5

"God is light..."

B. Argument 1.6–2.25

"if we walk in the darkness ... if we walk in the light..."

1. Test 1: Sin 1.6-10

"if we say ... if we say ... if we say ..."

Reassurance 2.1-2

"if anyone sins ..."

2. Test 2: Obedience 2.3-6

"the one who says ... the one who says ..."

Reassurance 2.7-8

"a new commandment ... which is true in Him and in you ..."

3. Test 3: Love 2.9-11

"the one who says ..."

Reassurance 2.12-14

"your sins have been forgiven you ..."

[A warning 2.15-17

"Do not love the world ..."]

4. Test 4: Truth 2.18-25

a. Statement 2.18-20

"many antichrists have appeared ... they went out from us ..."

Reassurance 2.21

"you know the truth ..."

b. Test 2.22-23

"the one who denies ... whoever denies ..."

Reassurance 2.24-25

"you have eternal life ..."

C. Conclusion 2.26-27

"His anointing teaches you all things ..."

II. The message explained 2.28–4.6

“everyone who ...”

A. Introduction 2.28-29

“He is righteous ...”

B. Argument 3.1–4.6

“the children of God ... children of the devil ...”

Reassurance 3.1-3

“we are the children of God ...”

1. Tension 1: Righteousness 3.4-10

a. Explanation 3.4-8

“everyone who ... no one who ... no one who ... the one who ... the one who ...”

Reassurance 3.9

“No one who is born of God practices sin ...”

b. Conclusion 3.10

“the children of God and the children of the devil are obvious ...”

2. Tension 2: Love 3.11-24

a. Explanation 3.11-18

“everyone who ...”

Reassurance 3.19-22

“we are of the truth...”

b. Conclusion 3.23-24

“love one another, just as He commanded us.”

3. Tension 3: Truth 4.1-6

a. Explanation 4.1-3

“every spirit ... every spirit ...”

Reassurance 4.4

“you are from God, little children, and have overcome them ...”

b. Conclusion 4.5-6

“he who knows God listens to us ...”

III. The message summarized 4.7–5.12

“everyone who ...”

A. Introduction 4.7-8

“God is love.”

B. Argument 4.9–5.12

“For whatever is born of God overcomes the world ...”

1. Tenet 1: Love 4.9-21

a. Statement 4.9-14

“He loved us and sent us His Son ...”

Reassurance 4.15-18

“we may have confidence in the Day of Judgment...”

b. Conclusion 4.19-21

“the one who love God should love his brother also.”

2. Tenet 2: Truth 5.1-12

a. Statement 5.1-4

“Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God ...”

Reassurance 5.5-10

“the one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself ...”

b. Conclusion 5.11-12

“He who has the Son has the life ...”

Concluding Remarks 5.13-21